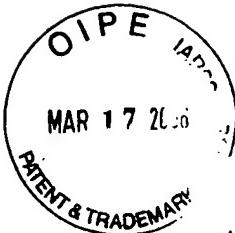


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Masaaki Ueda et al.

Examiner: Henry M. Johnson III

Serial No: 10/751,565

Art Unit: 3739

Filed: January 5, 2004

Docket: 17339

For: MEDICAL INSTRUMENT
HOLDING APPARATUS

Dated: March 14, 2006

Conf. No.: 3667

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF NON-COMPLIANT AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment issued on February 23, 2006, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the same and entry of the Response filed on February 9, 2006 in light of the following remarks:

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Dated: March 14, 2006

Thomas Spinelli